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Jerry A. Miller Reg. No. 30779

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Reg. No. 30779



**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

Inventor(s)

Christopher Jensen Read

Filed

10/2/2001

Application No.

09/970,359

Confirmation No.

1702

Group Art Unit

2621

Examiner

Shibru, Helen

Docket Number

SNY-R4742

Title

Faster Channel Change with PVR Pause Capability

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING / FAX TRANSMISSION** 

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Applicant, Assignee or Reg. Representative: Jerry A. Miller, Reg. No. 30779

Signature:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION** 

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Election/Restriction requirement dated September 6, 2006, in which the claims were restricted based upon the species of Figures 2, 3 and 7.

It is believed appropriate that the claims be broken down based upon the identified species as follows:

Application No.: 09/970,359

Fig. 2 – 1-3, 5, 7-9, 12-16, 18, 20-23, 25-31, 42-45, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64, 65-68.

**Fig. 3** – 1-3, 5, 7-10, 12-16, 18, 20-23, 25-31, 32-41, 42-45, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64, 65-68.

**Fig. 7** – 1, 2, 4-7, 11-15, 17, 19, 20, 24, 26, 42-45, 46-49, 50-53, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64, 65-68.

From this breakdown, it is evident that, contrary to the assertion in the action of September 6, 2006, there are in fact numerous claims that are generic either to the species of Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 or to all three identified species. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate exemplary systems that work partially in the analog domain, while Fig. 7 illustrates an exemplary embodiment that operates more fully in the digital domain. Conversion from one domain to the other is not precluded in Fig. 7. Applicant makes no assertion that the claimed species are patentably indistinct, however, in view of the substantial number of generic and overlapping claims, it would seem that little purpose is served by making the present election requirement final. The burden required to search and examine all claims should be minimal compared to examination of any one species.

Applicant notes for the record that based upon the above grouping, claims 1, 2, 7, 12-15, 20, 26, 42-45, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64 and 65-68 appear to be generic to all three species. Applicant further notes for the record that claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 12-16, 18, 20-23, 25-31, 42-45, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64 and 65-68 are generic to the species of both **Fig. 2** and **Fig. 3**. Applicant hereby requests that the claims be rejoined upon determination of allowability of any generic claim.

Responsive to the requirement to elect on of the identified species, Applicant hereby elects the species of **Fig. 3** – 1-3, 5, 7-10, 12-16, 18, 20-23, 25-31, 32-41, 42-45, 54-57, 58-60, 61-64, 65-68. (Note that the elected species almost completely includes the species of **Fig. 2**) However, in view of the additional cost of prosecuting two applications and the minimal relief of examination burden by virtue of the present election, Applicant further requests reconsideration and removal of the election requirement, and examination of all claims on their merits.

The undersigned hereby invites the Examiner to contact him by telephone if he can assist in the present matter in any way that expedites prosecution of the present application. The undersigned can be reached at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

err A. Miller

Registration No. 30,779

Dated: 10/4/06

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Application No.: 09/970,359